

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-25 without disclaimer or prejudice. Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1-25. [canceled]

26. (Previously presented) A method of forming a golf ball comprising the steps of

(a) forming a golf ball core;

(b) forming an inner cover layer around said golf ball core with a material having a first shore D hardness, wherein forming the inner cover layer comprises compression molding the inner cover material; and

(c) casting an outer cover layer around said inner cover layer and golf ball core with a thermoset material having a second shore D hardness less than the first, wherein casting the outer cover layer comprises:

- (i) placing the golf ball core in core holder;
- (ii) gelling the thermoset material in the first mold half;
- (iii) placing the golf ball core in to the gelling thermoset material in the first mold half,
- (iv) disengaging the golf ball core from the core holder after a selected period of time;
- (v) placing the golf ball core, while still in said first mold half with the thermoset material against a second mold half having additional thermoset material and mating the two mold halves together; and
- (vi) curing the thermoset material in the mated mold halves.

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the inner cover layer is formed of a material having a shore D hardness that is about 5 to about 50 greater than the shore D hardness of the thermoset material forming the outer cover layer.

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the inner cover layer is formed from at least one material selected from the group consisting of an ionomer resin, a polyurethane, a polyetherester, a polyetheramide, a polyester, a dynamically vulcanized elastomer, a functionalized styrene-butadiene elastomer, a metallocene polymer, nylon, and acrylonitrilebutadiene-styrene copolymer.
29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the outer cover layer thermoset material has a shore D hardness in the range of about 30 to 60.
30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the outer cover layer thermoset material has a shore D hardness in the range of about 35 to 50.
31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the thermoset material of the outer cover layer comprises at least one of a thermoset urethane, a polyurethane, a thermoset urethane ionomer, or a thermoset urethane epoxy.
32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the outer cover layer has a thickness of less than about 0.05 inches.